

Director's Advisory Committee Meeting

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Definition

- Community Health Workers are frontline public health workers who are trusted members of and/or have an unusually close understanding of the communities served. This trusting relationship enables the CHW to serve as a liaison/link/intermediary between health/social services and the community to facilitate access to services and improve the quality and cultural competence of service delivery. A CHW also builds individual and community capacity by increasing health knowledge and self-sufficiency through a range of activities such as outreach, community education, informal counseling, social support and advocacy.
- (<http://www.apha.org/membergroups/sections/aphasections/chw/>)
(http://www.cdc.gov/dhdsp/docs/chw_brief.pdf)

Scope of Work

- Provide information about health in an effort to reduce behavioral health risk factors.
- Assist in linking community members to medical care and a range of social services.
- Reach out to community members through health fairs and community events.
- Serve as liaisons with clinical and administrative staff by providing information on cultural issues impacting health.

Scope of Work

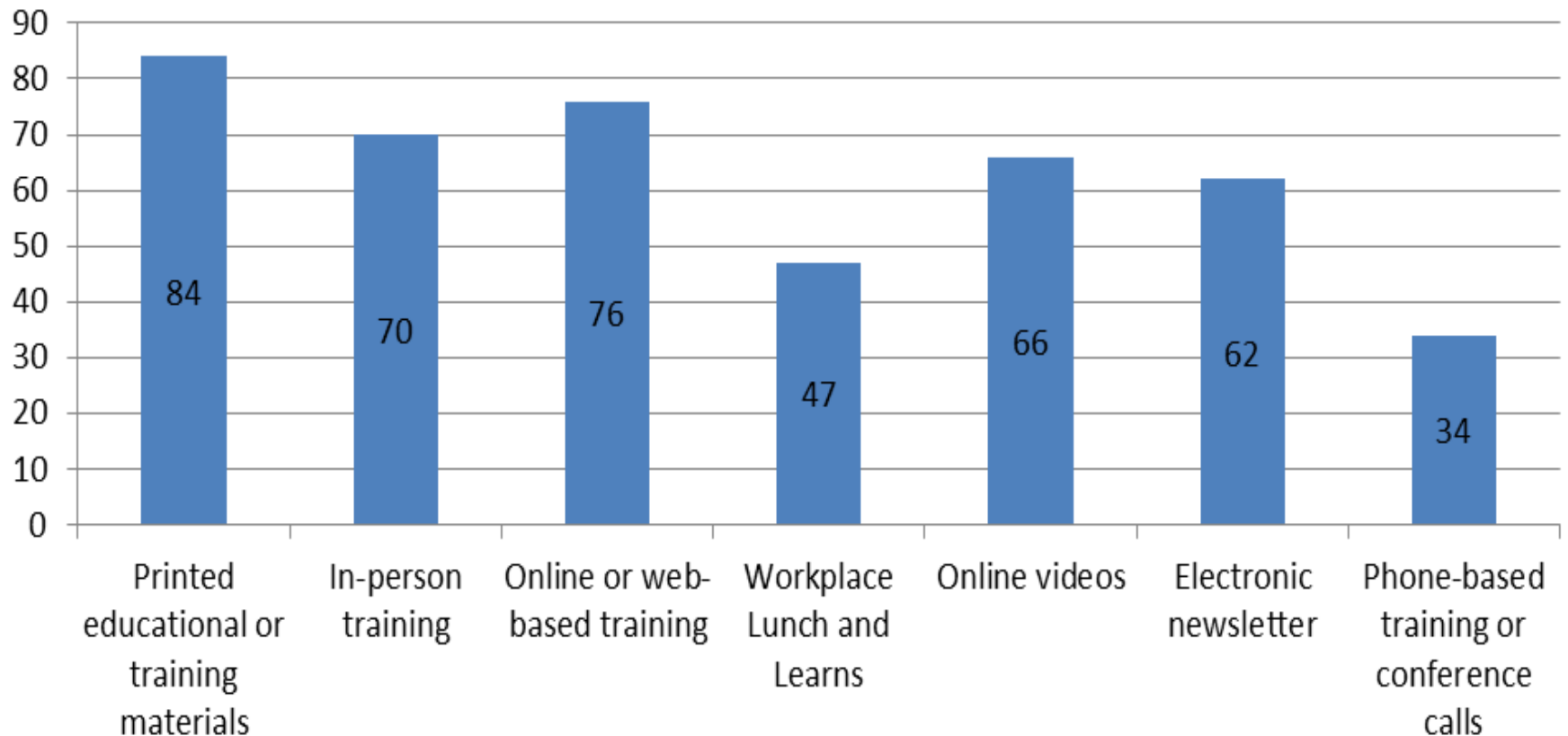
- Reduce social health determinants through social support.
- Informally assist with goal setting and providing encouragement and motivation.
- Advocate about health issues of the community.
- Follow-up with individuals to identify barriers that prevent compliance with treatment recommendations.
- Provision of \link to community resources for individuals to achieve self-management through short-term interventions that identify barriers and ways to over-come them.

Needs Assessment

- Conducted by Truman State University
- Methods
 - Key Informant Agencies - 98
 - CHWs 155 from 54 agencies

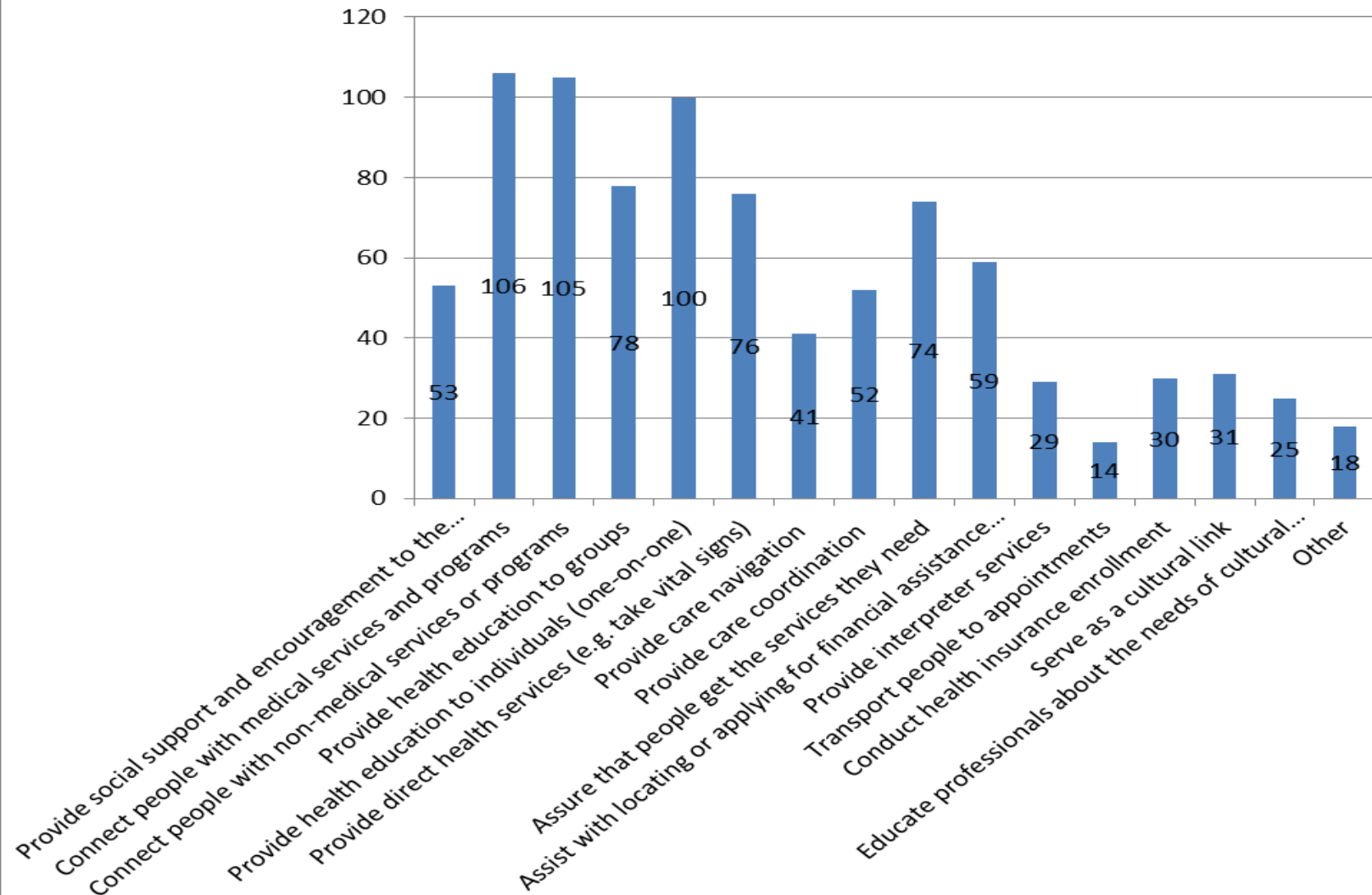
Needs Assessment

**Types of Resources of Interest if Available for Free
As Reported by Key Informants**



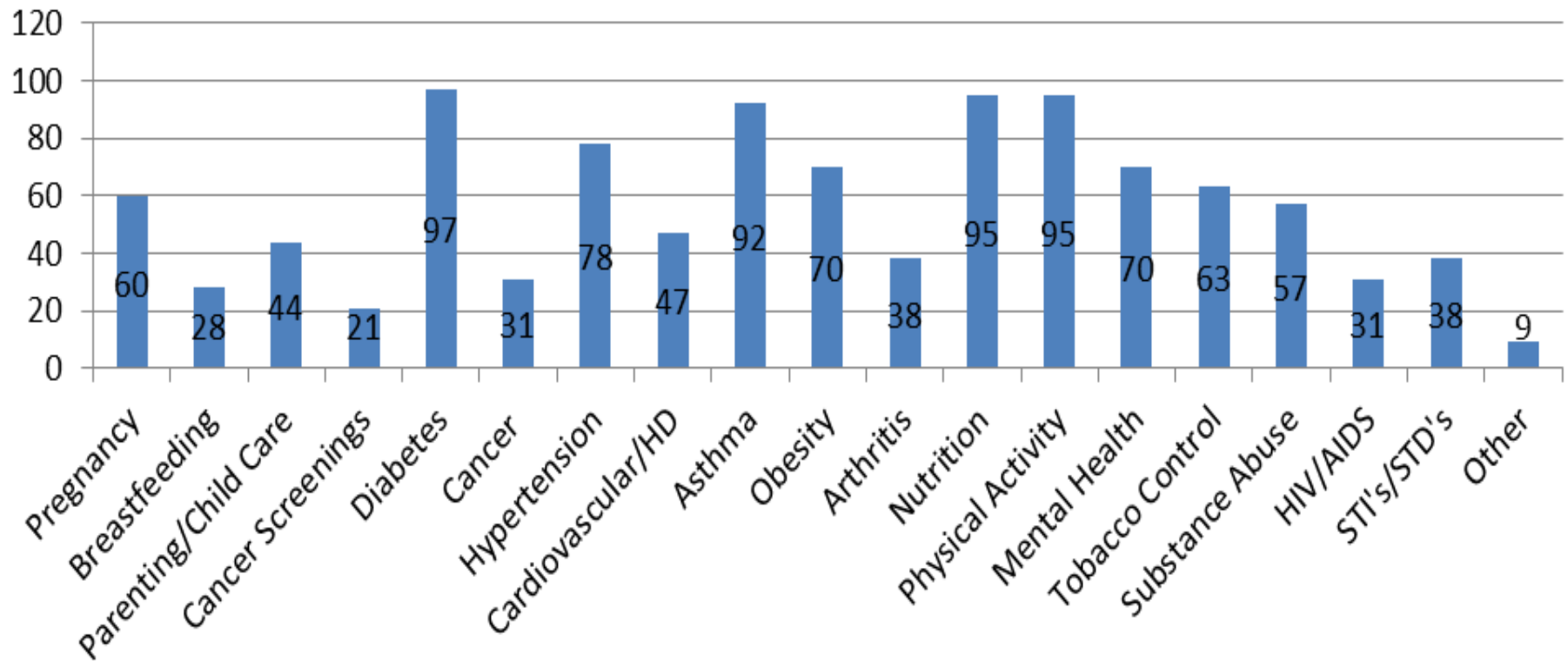
Needs Assessment

**Tasks Performed by Community Health Workers
As Reported by Community Health Workers**



Needs Assessment

Health Issues Addressed by CHWs
As Reported by CHWs



Activities

- Contract with Mid America Regional Council
- Statewide Community Health Worker Forum
- Development of standards and curriculum
- Coordinate with Department of Social Services and Department of Mental Health projects
- Local Public Health Agencies

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